Political (Secret B) **(1948) Department**

SERIES.

G.O. No.	3234
Dated	23-12-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

The Statement made by Hon'ble the Premier about the agitation for Andhra Province.

155 - Question - MOHAMED ABDUL S ALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:- Will the Hon'ble the Premier be pleased to state whether he made the following statement recently at a meeting of the press representatives:-

(a) "The present agitation about the Andhra Province was started and kept going only by the educated, who sought jobs, while the common man did not bother himself about it; and

(b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, whether he made the statement as Premier or in his individual capacity?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI (on behalf of the Hon'ble the Premier):- (a) The Statement is incorrect. Various parts of a long speech of mine made in Tamil have been misunderstood and various statements torn out of their places have been put together to give a wrong impression.

(b) In my individual capacity.

SAHIB
MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM/BAHADUR:- Whether the speech was in Tamil or Malayalam or in any other language, I want to know whether the central idea was there in the speech or not?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I have already answered the Question, Sir.

SRI. V. RAGHAVAYYA:- In view of the very dubious and hesitating contradiction given by the Minister just now, may I know, if he can possibly give the correct reply as to what exactly the Premier had said on that occasion; and what is the purpose and gist of the Premier's statement in this connexion, whether the speech was delivered in Tamil or English?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Sir, the speech was an extempore one, and we do not have a record of it.

SRI. V. RAGHAVAYYA:- I want to know, Sir, what is the purport of the speech in regard to the specific allegation? We are not anxious to know the manner of delivery or the language of the speech We want to know whether the Premier did make a statement referring to the undesirability of the formation of linguistic Provinces, and did he say that the cry for it arises out of a job-hunting desire?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Sir, the statement was made in his individual capacity. I do not think we can answer all these supplementaries.

SRI. D.V. RAMASWAMI:- May I know, whether the Hon'ble Premier made a subsequent statement clarifying what exactly he meant by his previous statement that appeared in the Press?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- A separate question might be put.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:- Is it not very embarassing for an Andhra Minister to answer for a Tamil Minister for a statement made by the latter? (Hear, Hear).

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Certainly not, Sir, it is not at all embarassing for an Andhra Minister to answer for a Tamil Minister or a Hindu Minister to answer for a Muslim Minister, if there is one on the Treasury Bench.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:- Whatever might have been the speech referred to, will the Hon'ble the Leader of the House tell us the view which the Hon'ble Premier holds on the question of the formation of provinces on a linguistic basis?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I do not think it is relevant, Sir. This is not the occasion for me to tell the views of the Hon'ble the Premier.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:- Sir, my question refers not only primarily but solely to the main question. The Hon'ble the Premier has expressed certain views and now he seems to go back on them. We want to know, to avoid any future confusion, what his view on this matter is?

DR. P. SUBBRAYAN:- May I ask the Minister, Sir, whether he is aware of the fact that the Government of India have announced that first things have got to go first?

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:- If the Hon'ble the Leader of the House reads my question, he will note that I have given the statement in quotation. It was taken from the newspapers. I want to know why the Government have not contradicted the matter since it was published in all the papers?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- The very fact that i been published in all the papers does not mean that the Governmen should come forward with a contradiction.

MUHAMMAD RAZA KHAN SAHIB:- May I ask, Sir, as to how it is that the Madras Press which is regarded really as very efficient always misreports the speeches of the Hon'ble Premier, because every time he makes a statement, we are putting a question on it on the floor of the House?

MR. SPEAKER:- It is the Reporters and not the Ministers that report the speeches. So, the Ministers are not responsible for any misreportings.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:- May I suggest, Sir, that Hon'ble Ministers when they make speeches on important matters may write out their speeches instead of speaking extempore?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- When we have got time, we try to get the speeches written. Otherwise, we make only extempore speeches which are really very brilliant.

MUHAMMAD ANWAR SAHIB BAHADUR:- In a matter of such great controversy as the linguistic division of this Province, is the Hon'ble the Premier right in prejudging the issue in his individual capacity, Sir?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Yes, Sir, he has got an individual capacity as much as any other member of the House.

BEGUM SULTAN MIR AMIRUDDIN:- My point is that when important announcements, or observations on important matters like this are made, is it not desirable that the Hon'ble Ministers should formulate their ideas and write them down, instead of making extempore speeches which are likely to be misunderstood?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Unfortunately, we do not have the time, Madam. (Laughter)

MR. SPEAKER:- Order, Order. The Hon'ble Minister should address the Chair?

MOHAMED ABDUL SALAM SAHIB BAHADUR:- Is it not proper that individual Ministers instead of talking on this important issue in different ways, should think of the joint responsibility of the Cabinet?

THE HON'BLE SRI B. GOPALA REDDI:- Joint replies will be made to the questionnaire issued by the Linguistic Provinces Commission that is arriving. And individual statements also can be made.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:- When the House has unanimously decided that there should be linguistic provinces, is the Leader of the Party in power right in going behind the resolution of the House?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- No, Sir. I do not accept that the Leader of the majority party has gone behind the resolution passed by the House. It is a question as to when it will come into force, and so it is only a question of implementing the resolution.

SRI. V. RAGHAVAYYA:- In view of the ostensible inability of the Leader of the House to answer the question satisfactorily and in view of the answer just now given that the Hon'ble Premier has made the statement in his individual capacity, may I know at this stage whether the Government are prepared to give a correct version of it through the Press agency?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- We are not prepared to do any such thing, Sir,

SRI. B.S. MURTHI:- May I know whether the Hon'ble Premier will at least now be pleased to issue a statement clarifying all the doubts?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Sir, he will make a statement if he is so inclined. Nobody can compel him to issue a statement.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:- Is the Hon'ble Minister aware of the fact that in a well-understood Parliamentary Government, a Minister on the Treasury Bench, really has no individual opinion of his own? (Hear, Hear).

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I won't accept it.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:- May I ask, Sir, whether the Leader of the House agreed with the Hon'ble Premier on this issue?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I do not knowwhat the Hon'ble Premier's views are on this issue.

ABDUL HAMEED KHAN SAHIB BAHADUR:- In view of the fact that the Hon'ble Premier is reported to have made the statement, may I know whether the Leader of the House accepts that statement?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I may say once again that the reported speech is not correct.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:- May I know whether the Government accepted the resolution which was passed by the House, regardingthis linguistic division of provinces, and if so, can any individual Member go back upon that acceptance?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- No individual Member can go back on any resolution passed by this House.

M. MUHAMMAD ISMAIL SAHIB BAHADUR:- Is it not a fact, Sir that the Government accepted the resolution of the House in this matter and if so -- not any Member generally, but a Member of the Government - whether any member can go back upon the acceptance?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- The answer to the first portion is in definite affirmative. I do not think any Minister has gone behind the resolution of the House.

SRI. G. RAJAMANNAR CHETTY:- On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Hon'ble Lady Member has stated that it is desirable that Hon'ble Ministers must prepare their speeches and not make extempore speeches on important questions. I fear it is a serious reflection on the competence of the Hon'ble Ministers.

MR. SPEAKER:- It is not a point of order at all.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN:- May I ask whether the Hon'ble Minister is aware that the resolution passed by this House was sponsored by the Government themselves?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- I am more than aware of that fact.

SRI. D.V. RAMASWAMI:- May I know whether the opinion expressed by the Hon'ble Premier is consistent with the opinion given by the Cabinet as a whole in reply to the questionnaire issued to them?

MR. SPEAKER:- The Hon'ble Member can put a separate question.

SRI. GUNTUR NARASIMHA RAO:- In view of the fact that the C.I.D. officials always note down the speeches of big persons down to the Congress worker, have the Government verified whether the C.I.D. officials have taken down this particular speech and whether the statement made by the Hon'ble Premier is correct or not?

THE HON'BLE SRI. B. GOPALA REDDI:- Unfortunately we do not have any record of the extempore speech.

....

/True copy/

Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

k.y.s.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT

ee the printed proceedings of the Legislative
lO c.f. No further action is called for.
The papers may now be recorded in a G.O. for future guidance.

x x x x
22.12.1948.

G.O. Ms. No. 3234 dated 23.12.1948.

Legislative Assembly Question - Statement made by the Hon'ble the Premier about agitation for Andhra Province - Papers recorded.

/True copy/

R. Thiagarajan 26.11
Office Assistant,
Madras Record Office.

24/11/53 24/11

k.y.s.